IN THE SUPREME COURT

OF THE

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

* * * *

IN THE MATTER OF THE AMENDMENT)
OF SDCL 16-16-15

RULE 03-7

A hearing having been held on February 10, 2003, at Pierre, South Dakota, relating to the amendment of SDCL 16-16-15, and the Court having considered the proposed amendment, the correspondence and oral presentations relating thereto, if any, and being fully advised in the premises, now, therefore, it is

ORDERED that SDCL 16-16-15 be and it is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

SDCL 16-16-15 Board of Bar Examiners - Applications for Admission - Investigations - Hearings - Confidentiality - Disciplinary board.

The Board of Bar Examiners is empowered to make inquiries and investigations concerning the character, fitness and general qualifications of applicants for admission. In the conduct of investigations and upon hearings, the Board may take and hear testimony and compel, by subpoena, the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers and documents. Any member of the Board may administer oaths and issue subpoenas.

The contents of any report received by the Board of Bar Examiners relating to the character, fitness and general qualification of an applicant as well as the author of such report, shall be privileged and confidential between the author of the report and all members of the Board of Bar Examiners, its staff, and the applicant, and as appropriate, between the author of the report and the South Dakota Supreme Court. This rule of confidentiality does not prohibit the Board of Bar Examiners from furnishing relevant information to the Disciplinary Board when the Board is conducting an investigation concerning the character, fitness and general qualifications of an attorney.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this rule shall become effective July 1, 2003.

DATED at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14th day of February, 2003.

BY THE COURT:

David Gilbertson, Chief Justice

ATTEST

Clerk of the Supreme Court (SEAL)

SUPREME COURT STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA FILED

FEB 14 2003

Shij A Jawon Long